CLAS 235 *Classical Mythology* Mackie Spring 2016

Contact Information

Instructor: Hilary Mackie
Office: Rayzor Hall 233
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Office Hours: Please e-mail me to make an appointment.

Course-level Student Learning Outcomes

- Familiarity with classical myths.
- Ability to think critically about classical myths.
- Familiarity with the scholarly study of myth.
- Ability to think critically about the scholarly study of myth.
- Ability to demonstrate competence in the aforementioned areas both orally and in writing.

Required Textbook

Author: Powell
Title: Classical Myth
Publisher and date: Longman 2014 (8th edition).
ISBN: 978-032-196-704.

Course requirements

- 25% of final grade: Quiz # 1. In class, on the date indicated in the course schedule below. The quiz will consist of short-answer questions only (no essays). To prepare for it, please make sure that you are familiar with the material described and indicated on the class handouts and in the lists of study questions based on Chapters 1-11. Please note that this means you will need to consult *two* separate documents for each chapter: the class handout, and the list of study questions. All of these documents are available on Owlspace, in the "Resources" folder. You will also, of course, need to prepare answers to the study questions by reading and reviewing the relevant material in the textbook.

- 25% of final grade: Quiz # 2. In class, on the date indicated in the course schedule below. The quiz will consist of short-answer questions only (no essays). To prepare for it, please make sure that you are familiar with the material described and indicated on the class handouts and in the lists of study questions based on Chapters 12-22. Please note that this means you will need to consult *two* separate documents for each chapter: the class handout, and the list of study questions. All of these documents are available on Owlspace, in the "Resources"

folder. You will also, of course, need to prepare answers to the study questions by reading and reviewing the relevant material in the textbook.

- 20% of final grade: Prepare and submit an essay outline, and discuss it in class. The guidelines for this assignment are on the final page of this syllabus (after the course schedule). Please note that if you do not follow the guidelines for this assignment, you risk receiving a score of "zero" for it.

- 30% of final grade: 5-10 page essay (double-spaced), due at 11.55pm on Wednesday May 4th (the last day of exam period). Your essay must be based on the outline you submitted for class discussion (see previous course requirement). Please submit your essay by leaving a copy in your drop box on Owlspace by the deadline. Please note that if you fail to meet the deadline, or fail to follow the other guidelines for this assignment, you risk receiving a score of "zero" for it.

- Barring emergencies and other reasonable exceptions, you are expected to attend all class meetings, arrive on time and having completed the homework, and contribute positively to the collective learning process. Please be aware that, while I have not assigned a specific portion of the final grade to this category, multiple absences or other deficiencies in this category may nonetheless impact your final grade negatively. If you believe you have a valid reason for missing class or arriving late or unprepared on a particular day (e.g. personal illness, death in the family or other family emergency, religious observance), please contact me to discuss your situation.

Grade Policies

- The two quizzes will be held in class, on the dates indicated in the schedule below. If you believe you have a valid reason for missing class on either day (e.g. personal illness, death in the family or other family emergency, religious observance), and would like to request a make-up quiz, please contact me to discuss your situation.
- The guidelines for preparing, submitting, and discussing your essay outline are on the final page of this syllabus (after the class schedule). Please note that if you do not follow the guidelines for this assignment, you risk receiving a score of "zero" for it.
- The essay is due at 11.55pm on Wednesday May 4th (the last day of exam period). In order to receive credit for this assignment, you must submit your work by the deadline. Please submit your essay by leaving a copy in your drop box on Owlspace by the deadline. Please note that if you fail to meet the deadline, or fail to follow the other guidelines for this assignment, you risk receiving a score of "zero" for it.

Policy regarding preparation, attendance, and contribution to class

- [As indicated above,] Barring emergencies and other reasonable exceptions, you are expected to attend all class meetings, arrive on time and having completed the homework, and contribute positively to the collective learning process. Please be

aware that, while I have not assigned a specific portion of the final grade to this category, multiple absences or other deficiencies in this category may nonetheless impact your final grade negatively. If you believe you have a valid reason for missing class or arriving late or unprepared on a particular day (e.g. personal illness, death in the family or other family emergency, religious observance), please contact me to discuss your situation.

Rice Honor Code

- In this course, all students will be held to the standards of the Rice Honor Code, a code that you pledged to honor when you matriculated at this institution. If you are unfamiliar with the details of this code and how it is administered, you should consult the Honor System Handbook at http://honor.rice.edu/honor-system-handbook/. This handbook outlines the University's expectations for the integrity of your academic work, the procedures for resolving alleged violations of those expectations, and the rights and responsibilities of students and faculty members throughout the process.

Disability Support Services

- If you have a documented disability or other condition that may affect academic performance, please: 1) make sure this documentation is on file with Disability Support Services (Allen Center, Room 111 / adarice@rice.edu / x5841) to determine the accommodations you need; and 2) talk with me to discuss your accommodation needs.

Syllabus Change Policy

- This syllabus is subject to change at any point in the semester if the instructor deems it necessary or advisable.

Course Schedule

Week 1
Tuesday, January 12, 2016: Read and discuss syllabus; introduce and discuss basic concepts.
Thursday, January 14, 2016: Chapter 1

Week 2
Tuesday, January 19, 2016: Chapter 2
Thursday, January 21, 2016: Chapter 3

Week 3
Tuesday, January 26, 2016: Chapter 4
Thursday, January 28, 2016: Chapter 5

Week 4
Tuesday, February 2, 2016: Chapter 6
Thursday, February 4, 2016: Chapter 7

Week 5
Tuesday, February 9, 2016: Chapter 8
Thursday, February 11, 2016: Chapter 9

Week 6
Tuesday, February 16, 2016: Chapter 10
Thursday, February 18, 2016: Chapter 11

Week 7
Tuesday, February 23, 2016: NO CLASS
Thursday, February 25, 2016: QUIZ # 1

Week 8: SPRING BREAK
Tuesday, March 1, 2016 - NO CLASS
Thursday, March 3, 2016 - NO CLASS

Week 9
Tuesday, March 8, 2016: Chapter 12
Thursday, March 10, 2016: Chapter 13

Week 10
Tuesday, March 15, 2016: Chapter 14
Thursday, March 17, 2016: Chapter 15

Week 11
Tuesday, March 22, 2016: Chapter 16
Thursday, March 24, 2016: Chapter 17

Week 12
Tuesday, March 29, 2016: Chapter 18
Thursday, March 31, 2016 - NO CLASS

Week 13
Tuesday, April 5, 2016: Chapter 19
Thursday, April 7, 2016: Chapter 20

Week 14
Tuesday, April 12, 2016: Chapter 21
Thursday, April 14, 2016 Chapter 22

Week 15
Tuesday, April 19, 2016: NO CLASS
Thursday, April 21, 2016: QUIZ # 2

Your essay is due at 11.55pm on Wednesday May 4th (last day of exam period).

Guidelines for preparing, submitting, and discussing your essay outline.

1. Go to "Sign-up" on Owlspace and sign up for one of the meetings titled "Discuss my essay outline in class today."

2. Consult the course schedule to determine which chapter of the textbook is assigned on the date for which you have signed up. Consult that chapter, and choose one of the Greek or Roman texts that is either presented in the body of the chapter or listed at the end under the heading "Some Additional Ancient Sources." (For example, The "Additional Ancient Sources" listed for Chapter 11 include Apollodorus 3.4.2-5.3, Ovid *Metamorphoses* 3.513-4.41, and Aristophanes' *Frogs*.) If you are in any doubt about how to make a good choice, please consult me.

3. Craft a thesis that is an interpretation of some aspect of the text or texts you have chosen, and that is informed in some way either by the content of the chapter, or by a topic or question that we have discussed in a previous class.

4. Write up an essay outline. Ideally, your outline will be composed of: your thesis; three major claims that support your thesis; and three pieces of textual evidence (give the citations and quote the relevant parts of the text) to support each major claim. Aim for that structure when you prepare this assignment. In reality, you may not be able to find all of the components, or work them all out to your satisfaction, while you are preparing this assignment. So: make a note in your outline of any components that are eluding you or causing you other problems, identifying them as items we should discuss in class.

5. Submit your essay outline by leaving a copy in your drop box on Owlspace by 11.55pm on the day before the date for which you have signed up.

6. Attend class on the date for which you have signed up, and be prepared to respond to feedback on your outline from your classmates and me.